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\$800,000 Asked***Potion by CIA******'Led to Death'***

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NORFOLK—The Central Intelligence Agency was charged Thursday with administering a certain drug or toxic substance which brought about the death of a Virginia Beach husband and father last January. The allegation was contained in each of three suits, asking a total of \$800,000, filed by Mrs. Edith W. Christensen, the widow, and Linda Anne Christensen, the daughter, of James R. Christensen of 4112 Thoroughgood Drive.

The suits maintain that Christensen, a retired Marine Corps colonel, was in the process of being interviewed for a position by the CIA Jan. 18 when he was given a potion which led to his death.

The CIA was negligent, the suits said, in that it knew or should have known that Christensen would be allergic to the drug or substance.

The negligence extended, the suits alleged, to the point that the CIA failed to properly and

adequately care for Christensen after the substance was administered.

As a result, the suits said, Christensen suffered painful physical, emotional, and mental injuries and ills, which resulted in death Jan. 28.

Christensen died of a gunshot wound in his head. His body was found Jan. 28 on the lawn of a Baylake Beach home. Police ruled the death suicide.

Police said a .38-caliber pistol was found in his hand. Christensen's car was parked in the driveway of the house in the 4200 block of Sandy Bay Drive where



Col. Christensen

he was found. No suicide note was found.

Christensen, 48, who retired from the service June 30, 1965, last served with the commander in chief of the Atlantic Fleet as director of joint operations.

One suit was filed by Mrs. Christensen as administratrix of the estate and asked \$500,000. She filed a second as widow, asking \$250,000. The daughter asked \$50,000 in the third suit.

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